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MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND AMER. NEWSP. PUBLISHERS' ASSOC Entered at the El Paso Postoffice for Transmission at Second Class Rates. Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a cham-

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Subscribers failing to get The Heraid promptly should call at the office or telephone No. 115 before 6:30 p. m. All complaints will receive prompt atten-

The New Insurance Rates.

WHAT is El Paso going to do about the new insurance rates? The revised ratings have been received by the agents, and they crease throughout the business section of more than 100 percent, while many rates in town are multiplied by three, four, or five. It is estimated that this city will pay out \$250,000 per year more for fire insurance, while the fire loss will tend steadily to decrease. The insurance companies are taking much less risk than ever before by reason of the new 80 percent co-insurance clause, and this virtually amounts to another increase in the rates to property owners.

Presumably the rates have been applied in this city in the same way as in all other cities in the state, and the legitimate protest is not limited to El Paso, but comes from every other city as well. The question is, Shall Ei Paso sit idly by and take without a murmur whatever is handed out to her by the insurance companies? Individual action will avail but little, but community action, and especially the action of all the cities of the state in common, may avail much.

The purpose of the state fire rating board law was to prevent discrimination, favoritism, rate cutting, and the growth of wild cat companies. Under cover of the well intended law the companies have multiplied the rates out of all reason. They hit us coming and going. The actuaries very kindly point out how by spending wast sums of money, tearing down and rebuilding, and making costly changes and additions, our people may be able to reduce their new rates down to a basis only 50 percent or 100 percent higher than rates that have prevailed during all

The Herald believes that the spirit and purpose of the new law are good and that the result should be beneficial to the state and to the business interests, while tending to conserve the interests of the companies. But in putting the new law into effect, the representatives of the fire insurance companies have exceeded their moral right, they have taken advantage of the legal license, and they have overreached themselves. They have gone so far that they have aroused a spirit of opposition that may result in the repeal of the law despite its general merits, for the people of this state are in no mood to trifle with the outrageous impositions which the companies seek to perpetrate under the cover of a law which should be beneficial if fairly applied.

As for El Paso's position, considered separately from all the other cities in the state, this city is unique by reason of the absence of frame buildings. There is no city in the state and no other city of this size in the United States so substantially built as El Paso. The schedules filed by the companies with the state rating board do not admit of any premium being allowed to this city by reason of its splendid solidity of construction as compared with the wooden cities of the eastern part of this state and of all other states in the union,

The Herald does not condemn the law as a whole, and does not fail to appreciate the justice of the principles underlying the law and underlying the re-rating of fire risks; but we should like to see El Paso inaugurate a vigorous protest, a statewide protest against the excesses that have been committed by the companies under cover of a law which was never intended to be used for the sole benefit of the companies, and against the unjust oppression exerted upon every property interest and business interest in the state of Texas.

The fire insurance companies ought to realize that the protest which is going up over the state does not come from corporation baiters, fanatics, demagogs, and irresponsible politicians, but that it comes from the solidest and most conservative business interests of the state. The companies ought to realize that by their excesses under the cover of a good law, they are making it impossible for their best friends and sincerest wellwishers to support them and are doing their level best to bring about a condition of chaos beside which the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing before the law was enacted will appear ideally perfect. The companies have started a worse conflagration than Texas ever knew and it will take more than smooth talks and prettily printed books of rules to stop the fire before it gets clear beyond control. The companies have gone too far and the reaction is going to be

El Paso may as well take the lead in a statewide protest because we can go at the matter in a conservative, businesslike, and reasonable way, while if some of the demagogs and politicians of east Texas are allowed to take a leading part, their influence will be wholly destructive, not truly reformative and constructive, and the business interests of the state will suffer along with the companies which have committed this serious tactical error.

The game of throwing pepper into each other's eyes is a poor game for real estate agents and bankers to play. The disposition to knock each other's trade never did much to build up business,

The big panhandle fair to be held at Amarillo is coming along all right and receives the enthusiastic approval of all the panhandle towns and counties.

Trash and litter around a building add one-fourth of 1 percent to the insurance rate. This is one charge that is justifiable on the part of the insurance companies and that can easily be removed by any property owner without cost to him-

Still no fair and no active preparations. The cities all around us will hold suc-

Victory For Municipal Ownership

THE most astonishing thing about the water election on Thursday is not that municipal ownership won-because that fight will have to be fought all over again for the bond election in June and public sentiment was known to be in favor of it as a general proposition-but that less than one-fourth of the qualified voters cared to express any opinion whatever on the question. The howl goes up from "the people" about the "referendum and recall" and yet here is the most vital public question that has been submitted to the voters of El Paso in many years, affecting directly every person's property, health, and pocketbook, yet exciting so little interest that out of this city of 40,000 people only 800 could be found to take the trouble to express any preference between municipal ownership of waterworks and the alternative of raising rates 75 percent to the private com-

Such indifference is positively astounding. As The Herald sees it, the low vote is not so much an indication of actual indifference to the water question solely, but it is an indication of a low barometer and disturbed condition in this community, a weak pulse, and lack of coordination. There is something wrong with the health of intelligent men who will allow such a tremendous question as this to be settled as it were by default. If it be true that voters simply could not make up their minds, then it is still more an evidence of an impairment of our community health.

Under all the circumstances presented to us, municipal ownership is by far the wisest solution of our problem. The proportion of the vote cast in favor of municipal ownership is overwhelming, and it is reported from the different precincts that the bulk of the voting was done by taxpayers and that no influence was ex-

erted in any quarter to carry the election for one or the other proposition. Important bond elections have often been carried in this city by a much smaller vote when public sentiment was known to be strongly in favor of such bond issues and few taxpayers took the trouble to go to the polls. But here is a question in which every citizen is interested, whether taxpayer or not, and every qualified voter holding a poll tax receipt had a right to express his choice and the choice of the majority was binding. In view of the fact that the election carried so overwhelmingly for municipal ownership, it is safe to assume that the majority of the people of this city are well satisfied with the result as shown by the elec-

The Herald chose municipal ownership for advocacy as against the raising of rates only after very thorough, careful and prolonged investigation of the whole subject and in full knowledge of all the points involved. The judgment of The Herald has now been fully vindicated by the voice of the majority, and it only remains

to see that the bond issue in June is ratified by the taxpayers. We have a month more to thrash out every point involved in this question. The Herald would like to see more public interest manifested, and this paper will be glad to publish contributions bearing in any way on the water problem. Such contributions, however, must be signed with the real name of the writer and must not exceed 500 words in length.

TNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

HIS life's too short," said the bearded sage, who pondered over the mystic page; "if man lived longer, methinks I'd wrest a lot of secrets from Nature's breast; alas! I'm feeble, my eyes are dim, and Death's preparing to douse my glim, and all the triumphs that I have planned, and all my visions will soon be canned. If I could live for two hundred years, I'd make the universe prick

its ears." "This life's too long," said, in languid tones, the slothful man with a heap of bones, whose highest aim, as he OF LIFE went his way, was just to murder another day; "one year's the same as the year before, and the whole blamed thing is a beastly bore." "This life's just right," said the Cheerful Jay, "and I wouldn't alter it by a day; the man who works as a man should do, enjoys his task till the day is through, and then he's glad that his task is sped, and gladder still when he goes to bed. And what is life,"

asks the Cheerful Jay, "but a longer sort of a summer day? All day we hustle

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and do our best, and when evening comes we are glad of rest.'

Was Mason

To-

(From The Herald of this date, 1896) Years Ago

Municipal Ownership Discussed; County Collector's Office Repaired

day

pai water works. Leigh Clark received a letter this proved.

morning from San Antonio stating that the court of appeals had affirmed the judgment of the district court allowing Harry Mitten \$5000 damages for per-sonal injuries in his suit against the at the Catholic churches and at St. Mexican Central railroad. Judge Crosby's surveyors were 25

ast heard from. Deputy warden Gibbons of Canyon arrived this morning and will

state penitentiary.

John B. Hawley, engineer in charge was authorized to have the collector's of the Fort Worth water works, has office repaired. A request for a washwritten the El Paso city council ad-vising the establishment of a munici-district clerk was denied. The county salary list amounting to \$583 was ap-

Six indictments were returned by the grand jury this morning and an adjournment was taken until Friday.

Clement's Episcopal church tomorrow. Mayor Arriola of Juarez has written mayor Campbell a letter of thanks for sending the fire department to Juarez when consul Mallen's building was aftre.

Water was struck in the Sheldon well eave Friday, having in custody Pedro at a depth of 49 feet, but the drill aca, who escaped from the Colorado will probably be sunk 80 feet, it being down 65 feet at the present time. At a meeting of the county commis-ioners, held last night, Chaf. F. Slack \$2.90; copper 10%c; Maxican pesos 53c.

HELP SAVE THE BABIES DONATIONS NEEDED

A large ice box is the latest gift to the W. C. A. School for Mothers, and n most useful one. Hornce B. Stevens is the donor. The Consumers' Ire company is contributing the ice.

Donations of milk and crackers are now needed in order to carry out of the most practical plans for help undertaken by the W. C. A. School for

It is proposed to have the nursing and expectant mothers call at the school each day, and while there partake of a glass of milk and a cracker. This will mean nourishment for the children,

Eighteen sick hables were brought to the dispensary Thursday morning. Who will furnish the scales for weighing the bables?

From An Insurance Agent

El Paso, May 12. Editor El Paso Herald:

ousiness risks range from 50 to 308 percent; and in addition to this the agents are required to write all policies on nercantile risks with the 80 percent co nsurance clause as a part of the pol-

I was prepared for and expected some advances in the rates, but it seems to me that the increase is out of all reason and suggest that it would be wise for the directors of the chamber of commerce to call a mass meeting for the purpose of protesting against the new rates created by the insurance commis loners, and would suggest that said meeting pass suitable resolutions look-

ing to a repeal of the law. Every city and town in the state of Texas should, and probably will, take steps to have the said law repealed by the legislature at the earliest possible moment, and I think it would be well for El Paso to take the initiative and urge that all other cities join in the

It is possible that upon close investigation of the increased expanse to the business communities of the state, that it may become advisable to petition the governor to call a special session of the egislature for the purpose of having this new insurance law repealed, and it is certainly a matter that justifies every individual who pays on insurance use his or her influence with the enstors and representatives, looking to the repeal of the law. These matters an, however, be discussed at the meeting suggested.

I have just had a conversation with

t of a mass meeting by the chamber, and am advised by him that the regular monthly meeting of the board will be to talk the matter over with the board. I attach a list showing a few compari-

cases, however. This is a matter of vital importance to the business community and I have no doubt that all of the insurance agents in this city will heartily cooperate with the chamber of commerce.

sons of the old and new rates. This

comparison shows many of the extreme

and citzens generally, in bringing about the desired result. Knowing The Herald's policy is to times, I feel sure you will give this

letter space in the paper. Thunking you in advance for the

Yours very truly, W. F. Payne. (Following is the list of comparisons referred to):

Rate Rate Pct. Angelus Hotel \$2.25 \$5.31 Kraksuer, Zork & Moye. 1.45 Popular Dry Goods Co... 1.25 2.57 City National Bank 1.25 4.58 First Natl. Bank 1.75 3.12 Jas. J. Dick Co. 1.00 1.67 Guarantee Shoe Co. . . . 1.95 4.11 D. M. Payne Produce Co. 1.60 3.12 McMath Tea & Coffee Co. 1.75 2.59 Orndorff Hotel 1.75 3.66 Calisher Dry Goods Co., 1.25 2.25 Ind. Electric Co. 2.00 8.19 308 Kelly & Pollard, ware-Sheldon Hotel 1.75 | 4.13 109 1.75 4.25 140 Bldg. cor. St. Louis &

. M. Payne, president of the chamber of commerce, in reference to the calling

PAPER MONEY TO BE SHAVED DOWN

Is Too Big for Convenience and Costs Too Much Now.

Chicago, Ill., May 13 .- A special from Washington says a reduction in the size of the paper money of the United States will be made if secretary of the treasury Wayne MacVeagh accepts the within a few weeks by a committee of treasury officials appointed to investigate this and other proposed reforms The object of the proposed change is to supply the country with a size currency more convenient for handling and save the government half a million

BIG RANCH AND

size of the present bill.

FINE HORSES SOLD Sacramento, Cal., May 13 .- Rancho Del B. Haggin and his string of thoroughbreds, have been sold by the Haggin and Tevis heirs to the Minneapolis Land company. The price paid is between a million, seven hundred and fifty thou sand and two million dollars. The

ranch contains 44,000 acres.

who have been on a strike for three to grant their demands

URGE ELECTIRC WORKERS TO JOIN UNION AT FT. WORTH

Stanton Sts. 2.50 7.67 298

Ft. Worth, Tex., May 13.-In an effort to get the strike breakers ported by the Southwestern Telephone company to join the union, pickets were posted today at the union station to interview any who may arrive. There are about 40 members of the electrical workers' union on a strike formerly employed by the telephone company which is importing strike breakers following the walk out by the men when they demanded 50 cents per day wage increase. J. T. White, district organizer of the union, who is here, declares there will be no violence.

HEAVY JUDGMENT ASKED FROM HOUSTON MILLIONAIRE

Houston, Tex., May 13 .- A sensation was caused here this morning when it dollars a year in paper and engraving. became known that a suit had been filed in the district court asking \$50,000 mended will be about three-fourths the damages against J. L. Mitchell, a manufacturing jewelry millionaire, on account of the killing of John Bonner of LaPorte, by Mitchell on July 2, 1908. The petition was filed by a son and daughter of Bonner, who claim the sum named for mental anguish and the loss of their father's services. Mitchell was acquitted at his criminal court trial. He claimed self defence.

RAIN FALLS OVER NORTHERN AND CENTRAL WESTERN TEXAS

Ft. Worth, Tex., May 13.-This section had good rains today in northern Texas. Panhandle and central western, San Antholo, Tex., May 13.—One hun-ired and twenty-five leatherworkers Strawn, Witchita Falls, Decatur, Henrietta, Bowie, Vernon, Quanah, Archer months returned to work today under City, Seymour, Jacksboro, Childress, old conditions, the employers refusing Weatherford and Eastland. It is a great Jacksboro, Childress, benefit to crops.

no trace of a pencil or other material thing with which to write it. You may take a sponge and wipe the slate to your heart's content, and then they will take the slate and by a few magic words produce the message right under your very eyes. Or, if you are skepti-

Spiritualists Use To Obtain Funds

II-SPIRITUALISM AND MAGIC

Many Slate Tricks, New and Old,

cal and wish to supply your own state never letting it pass out of your hand from the time of arrival at the seance to the time of departure, the message will appear with equal certainty. If not satisfied with that, you can bring to the seance a pair of slates, glued, screwed, hinged and padlocked logether, and when you take them back home there is a message on the inside that is

Ism, none is practiced in a wider

re mystifying variety of ways

than that of slate-writing. Mediums

will write a message on a slate with

A Mystifying Experience. It is absolute folly for any ordinary person to expect to discover by his own exertions the explanation of all these tricks. At every point in his investigation he is facing unequal odds. Com-bining the art of the magician with the powers of the hypnotist, the mediums have made thousa ds willing o swear that a pair of slates has never passed from their hands throughout the sitting But the senses have deceived.

Here is a case in point. A visitor to a seance wished to test the medium's powhe wrote a message on one side of a slate. He then placed another slate on top of this and sealed the two together with sealing wax, screwed them together, and then put padlocks on them. He took them to the medium and afterward carried his slates home and opened them for examination. There he found a full and satisfactory an-swer to his question. He declared that the slate had never left his hands, and that there was no possible natural way of accounting for it

Another Trap Door. But let us look into that. When he eated himself at the table on the opposite side of which was the medium, passed the slate under the table. Here the medium held one side of the slates and he the other. Then followed a series of jerkings and twistings, and finally, during a flt of coughing which opportunely seized the medium, the slates were momentarily jerked from the sitter's hands.

But in that one unconscious moment a confederate had passed a set of slates through a trap door in the floor and the sitter caught hold of them. He took the sitter's states out of the hands of the medium and substituted the other set. While the medium and the sitter were wrestling with those slates under the table, deft fingers below were opening the slates, writing the answer to the question, closing them up again, and passing them back for substitution. Another fit of coughing and the originals are substituted for the duplicates. The sitter then takes his slates away opens them, and reads his message. He never realizes what happened while he was holding sistes unde that table. A Joker Joked.

One of the most amusing exposures was that of Henry Slade, a medium who was popular some years ago. An inves-tigator who was up to all the tricks of Slade was absent from the scance room | pencil under the finger nail. A corset I feceived this afternoon a copy of the new insurance rates for El Paso and find that the advance in rates on surance agents to be present, in order surance agents to be present, in order and substituted this one: "Henry, yo had better watch this fellow; he's up to and padlocked together.

snuff. Alelnda. Alcinda was the name of Slade's deceased wife. When he came to produce the message he read it and furious. He could take all sorts of liberties with the memories of other's departed ones, but it made a difference when his own dead wife was concerned. Finally, seeing that anger would not suffice to hide his predicament he wheedled his investigator into a bond of secrecy and told him how he operated work for the interest of El Paso at all his tricks. Slade ended his career in a lunatic asvlum.

Natural Means Used. A slate writer named Eglington man-

aged so to impress the spiritualists with the belief that he was possessed of actual occult powers that they defied anyone to disprove his claims. At last an admirer of Eglington agreed with Dr. Hodgson to seek to accomplish the same things Eglington did by natural means. posed as a medium. He in turn was investigated by the spiritualists, and they all certified that he was indeed postrace of fraud in his phenomena. Then 95 he and Dr. Hodgson produced their contract and showed by it that only natural 112 means were used to accomplish every initiated expect to solve them? 80 I slate-writing trick he had performed. One of the most mystifying of all Pellets.

By Frederic

J. Haskir

F ALL the arts of deception of the slate-writing performances is that in which a medium gives the prospective ommercial medium in spiritualsitter a little piece of chalk and asks him to seal it up between two states, using any amount of scaling wax or other material to make it absolutely impossible for the cedium to reach the interior of the states. While the pair of states is held in piain view of the sitter, a message is written and the sitter is asked to open it. He does so and there is the message, in badly formed characters. It may be, but certainly produced without the medium's reaching the inside of the slates.

The secret is this: The little piece of chalk was filled with minute fron filings. A magnet was secreted in the sleeve of the medium, and he passed it along the underside of the slate in a way to pull the chalk about and so to write

the message desired. Other Sinte Tricks.

In another slate test the medium brings into the room eight small slates and one large one. The sitter is shown the small slates one by one, he washes them if he chooses, dries them, and places them on the table. After they are all laid on the table, the medium asks the sitter to write his name and great scenic highway of New Mexico the date of his birth on the large slate. After this the large slate is placed ! the sitter's lap, a rubber band is placed over the stack of small slates, and they are placed on the large slate in the sitter's lap, with the request that he fight?" is the query of a correspondent in the El Paso Herald. "Oh, will is requested to examine his slates, one by one. On the small slate at the bottom of the pile he finds a message written out, addressed to the sitter himself.

He goes away firmly believing in spir-Prepared Slate Was Used.

As a matter of fact, the medium used nine small slates instead of eight, and at an unobserved moment, while he was writing his name, the ninth slate, prelously prepared, was slipped from under the large slate and inserted in the stack of small ones. This trick is varled in many ways. Sometimes the prepared slate is concealed under a rug and no large slate is used. In another case the prepared state is concealed on a mantelpiece near the medium's table. He stands somewhat behind the sitter, who is cleaning the slates to his heart's content. When the fifth or sixth slate s cleaned the medium diverts the attention of the sitter while he substitutes he prepared slate for the one just handed him by the sitter.

Numberless Tricks.

One might continue indefinitely in attempting to describe the slate-writing methods that have been exposed from time to time by the magicians and exmediums who have written on the sub-ject. He might tell of the slate covered with silk that hides the message until the proper time and is then torn off and hidden in the medium's sleeve. He might describe the double-pointed slate pencil, the one end of slate and the other of nitrate of silver, in which a message is written by using both ends, and the one part comes out again after the slate has been enused and dried.

Then there is the camel's hair brush and the hydrochloric acid with a little zinc dissolved in it. Another trick is the trade went to a Slade scance. While for the medium to have a tiny piece of by the sitter and sealed and screwed

The Rubber Stamp Ruse.

A rubber stamp message concealed in the medium's sleeve in a little tin box covered with prepared chalk will make Itself visible on the state brought by the sitter and placed under the medium's table or held vertically above the table. It is attached to a rubber band that carries it back into the sleeve when the job is done. Writing with the toes while medium and sitter hold hands is another solution. A message in any colored chalk is selected, written inside of two locked and hinged slates is produced by a duplicate key and a thimble with the different colors in tiny crayons attached to it.

Typewriters and Black Thread.

Even a typewriter may be made to produce a message while the medium and the sitter are ten feet away. Black silk threads and a confederate form the Messages reproduced on slates that are in their original wrapping from the stationary store are produced through a confederate and a hole sessed of supernatural powers, and that in the wall. The list of tricks is so they could not discover the faintest large as to defy enumeration, and it is being extended every day. Many of them baffle even the magicians who try to learn them. How, then, can the un-Tomorrow-III Sealed Letters and

With The Exchanges

MENT. From Tueson (Ariz.) Citizeh

Many El Pasoans were oppesed to the commission plan of government when the city's amended charter was before the legislature, but every El

Pasoan is now praising that plan as the city has made more progress during the years it has been governed by the commission plan than in all the years pre-Other cities operating under the commission form of government have had

the same experience as El Paso, the ward lines being eliminated and the aldermen or commissioners being elected at large. With one alderman at the head of one or more departments he gives his attention to the work under his jurisdiction and the holding the head of all departments responsible for the appropriations made annually, the cities operating under the commission plan get a more business like administration of public affairs. Much routine business is transacted by each alderman, independently of the others, and when they meet regularly the commission, or council as a whole, approves the acts of the department heads

In El Paso, as elsewhere, all purchases for the city are on a competitive basis and by this means a great saving results annually

One of El Paso's greatest progressive movements, under the commission government, is the paving of its streets. A we want in Valencia county. improvement was adopted by Joseph U.

SUCCESS OF COMMISSION GOVERN- row money from the city of the city's credit, El Paso having voted bonds the sum of \$200,000 to get the first start for paving in the residence districts. This money is being worked over and over again as the individual property owners make their payments back to the city and is resulting in the construction of miles of permanent streets in the Pass City.

The fire and police departments are also governed by commissioners appointed by the mayor as advisory boards. By this means the departments are taken out of politics and an applicant for a place in either department is not asked who he voted for in the last election or how he will vote in the next, efficiency being the first requisite.

El Paso's experience is not an exception to the rule, under the commistain if the city should adopt this method of city government.

BANKERS AND ROOSEVELT.

From San Antonio (Texas) Express: The Texas bankers cheered Roosevelt. Perhaps they read the suggestion in a New York publication that Rockefeller's fortune will be turned over to the colonel, thus solving two problems at

EL PASO THE MECCA. From Belen (N. M.) Tribune

Good roads, good roads; that is what "revolving plan" of payment for street pleased to see that both Bernalillo coun Sweeney when he was in the mayor's the subject, with some prospect of some chair, on much the same plan as that thing doing between these counties is inaugurated by the reclamation service. the way of better roads. Now Valencia Property owners were allowed to bor- county lies between the two principal

PIQNEER PHILOSOPHY.

Nothing makes a man madder than to read about all the cheap summer trips and still have an unpaid note in the bank that is fast coming due. In the old days lots of men left for their health overnight and there weren't any cheap excursions either.

cities of these countles, and we want to get a move onto us or they will be building an sirline road right over us. What say the board of county commissioners? Shall Valencia county be the last county to build its link in the

HE MAY.

From Knowles (N. M.) News. lace the palms of his hands upon them. ent in the El Paso Herald. "Oh, will After some time has clapsed the sitter he? No, not unless he can fight him-

THE CUSTOM HERE.

From Bisbee (Ariz.) Miner. Tucson's city council has responded to the request of the inturance people that there be no fireworks allowed in the Old Pueb'o on July 4th

(Continued from Page One.)

ris, Klaw & Erlanger, Florence Zieg-fleid, Augustus Pitou, Charles B. Dillingham, Joseph M. Ggites, Wagenhals & Kemper, Frederic Thompson, Al H. Woods, Joseph Weber, Henry Miller, Daniel Frohman, William Harris and others. These managers, who own and control 200 of the leading traveling combinations in the country, to say nothing of their individual ownership of theaters or leases of theaters in the big cities, have placed the booking of their various combinations and interests exclusively in the hands of Klaw & Erlanger, with instructions to play only in such territory and in such theaters as will give the producing lagers the support to which they

are entitled for the wast entity involved in making their productions. "The significance of this combination can best be told by the statement that heretofore all alliances that have been formed in the theatrical business have been made by owners or lessees taters, but this combination is at worldwide interest, as it supplies the stars, plays and productions to the

various theaters throughout the coun-Trust's Clever Move.

It would appear that the trust has this time got the better of some of the circuits in the country. While the managers of the circuits were talking of going over to the Shuberts or opening their houses to shows of all classes against their agreement with Klaw & Erlanger to book only "trust" shows-Messrs, Klaw & Erlanger have "tied up" the majority of the big producers so that the managers can only get the shows by coming to the trust as usual. Times agone "K. & E.," as as they are called in the profession, controled things by organizing the circuit chiefs and forcing the producers to come to terms; when the circult managers began to kick, "K. & E." turned around and organized the producers so that the house managers will have to come to terms. It still looks as if the trust had the upper hand While the Shuberts have lots of good attractions, they have not nearly the number that the trust controls, neither have they been able to link up their

Merely "Open Houses," Contrary to the general belief, the circuits reported as having gone over to the Shuberts-such as the Wels circult in Texas and the Cort circuit in the northwest-have not really so; they have merely opened their houses and declared that they will play shows of either "the trust" Shuberts. L. M. Crawford, of the Crawford circuit in Hitnois, Missouri and El Paso, tried this last year, but was soon glad to get back with "K. & E. inasmuch as the latter refused to book any shows on such an arrangement and the Shuberts were not able to furnish enough shows to keep the circuit going. Cort tried the same thing this year and Klaw & Erlanger at once canceled all his time, leaving him either to come back and "be good," or to take what the Shuberts can give

circuits so that they can handle the

Arizona With "Trust." Not all of Cort's theaters will stick

with him, however, in his fight on 'the trust." Already all the Arizona louses are said to have pulled gut of his booking management. It is reported here that Frank Rich, of El Pase, will now book "K. & E." shows for his El Paso house and the Arizona houses. Rich has aiready obtained control of the Douglas, Arizona, house and has made arrangement with the Phoenix and Tueson houses to book for them. Bisbee will have to come in, for the Shuberts cannot send shows there for that particular town with no

ther place to play in the territory. Should the Wels circuit in Arkansas and Texas remain out of the "K & E." circuit, however, this might have the effect of curtailing the attractions in El Paso, as it would make a long "for the trust" shows into that city from Louisians, unless they were routed down from Kansas, which is

SNYDER'S SATURDAY SPECIAL

(Removnt Sale New On). Tomorrow only, we will sell "1847 orars" knives and forks, dinner size, worth regularly \$5.55 per set, at \$3.45. Snyder Jewelry Co.,